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S E C R E T PARIS 001751

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/17/2036

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SUBJECT: (S) SHIELD S59-05 FRENCH REPOSE TO AUSTRALIA

GROUP ALERT REGARDING IRANIAN PROCUREMENT ENTITY SAMAMICRO

REF: SECSTATE 10911

Classified By: Counselor for Environment, Science, and Technology, Robert W. Dry, Reason 1.4, B,D,& H

1. (S) On March 16 Embassy received the GOF's response to ref demarche delivered to MFA in January. The non-paper - in French and classified at the DEFENSE CONFIDENTIAL level - confirms that the MFA followed-up the Iranian procurement of possible dual-use items from the French firm CILAS by the Iranian firm SAMAMICRO. CILAS notified the French that they sold two granulometers, one in December 2004 and the other in the latter part of 2005 to a paint manufacturing company, PARS AL VAN PLANT & DESIGN INDUSTRIES in Tehran. The granulometers in question are not dual-use and therefore not subject to the Australia Group, according to the French non-paper. France will maintain its vigilance regarding SAMAMICRO and of all commercial requests that come from Iran.

2. (SBU) A hardcopy of this non-paper can be sent by secure fax. Please send request and fax number to KatzerKM@state.sgov.gov and dryrw@state.sgov.gov.

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>

Hofmann